UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/620,975	07/14/2003	Yao-Lin Cho	PUSA030647	9688

7590 12/03/2004

EXAMINER
SMITH, JAMES G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3723	

Yao-Lin Cho
58, MA YUAN WEST ST.
TAICHUNG,
TAIWAN

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

EXAMINER	
ART UNIT	PAPER
	12012004

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

Included herein are the actual pages of the specification and claims that are of record in this application. As can be seen there are indeed letters missing from some words.

In order to properly reply to the last Office action, appliant must correct the defects in the proper manner.

The timely submission under 37 CFR 1.129(a) filed on 25 October 2004 is not fully responsive to the prior Office action because the amendment to the claims is not in the proper format. Since the submission appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to provide a complete reply to the prior Office action, applicant is given a shortened statutory period of ONE MONTH or THIRTY DAYS from the mailing date of this letter, whichever is longer, to submit a complete reply. This shortened statutory period supersedes the time period set in the prior Office action. This time period may be extended pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a). If a notice of appeal and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) were filed prior to or with the payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(r), the payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(r) by applicant is construed as a request to dismiss the appeal and to continue prosecution under 37 CFR 1.129(a). The appeal stands dismissed.

James G. Smith
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 3723

A steel ball 23 is inserted through the through aperture 22 of the retainer device 20 and the through hole 13 of the main body 10.

FIG. 5 is a schematic view illustrating a ratchet box end 30 of a spanner 3 engaging with the sleeve device. When the box end 30 of the spanner 3 engages with the first sleeve device, the steel ball 23 will block an inner surface of the box end 30 of the spanner 3. The elastic element 21 will push the steel ball 23 to move toward the inner surface of the box end 30 of the spanner 3.

FIG. 6 is a schematic view illustrating an open end 40 of the spanner 3 engaging with the sleeve device. The steel ball 23 will block an inner surface of the open end 40 of the spanner 3.

FIG. 7 is a schematic view illustrating the sleeve device engaging with a hexagonal nut.

Referring to FIGS. 8 and 9, a second sleeve device comprises a main body 10a and a retainer device 20a.

The main body 10a has a first end portion 11a having a hollow interior 101a and a through hole 13a communicating with the hollow interior 101a, and a second end portion 12a.

A diameter of the first end portion 11a is smaller than a diameter of the second end portion 12a.

A diameter of th first end portion 11a is slightly smaller than a diameter of the retainer device 20a.

Th r tain r device 20a is inserted in th first nd portion 11a of the main body 10a.

The retainer device 20a has an elastic element 21a having an outer protruded portion 24a inserted through the through hole 13a of the main body 10a and a slit 25a.

Referring to FIGS. 10 to 12, a third sleeve device comprises a main body 10b and a retainer device 20b.

The main body 10b has a first end portion 11b having a hollow interior 101b and a through hole 13b communicating with the hollow interior 101b, and a second end portion 12b.

A diameter of the first end portion 11b is smaller than a diameter of the second end portion 12b .

A diameter of the first end portion 11b is slightly smaller than a diameter of the retainer device 20b.

The retainer device 20b is inserted in the first end portion 11a of the main body 10b.

The retainer device 20b has a ring-shaped elastic element 21b having a twisted protruded portion 26b inserted through the through hole 13b of the main body 10b.

The sleeve device of the present invention is easily engaged with a box end or an open end of a normal spanner

stably.

The pr s nt invention is not limited to the above embodiments but various modification thereof may be made. Furthermore, various changes in form and detail may be made without departing from the scope of the present invention.

I CLAIM:

1. A sleeve d vice comprises:

a main body and a retain r device,

the main body having a first end portion having a hollow interior and a through hole communicating with the hollow interior, and a second end portion,

a diameter of the first end portion slightly smaller than a diameter of the retainer device,

the retainer device inserted in the first end portion of the main body, and

the retainer device having an elastic element having an outer protruded portion inserted through the through hole of the main body.

2. The sleeve device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the elastic element has a slit.

3. The sleeve device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the elastic element has a ring shape.

4. A sleeve device comprises:

a main body and a retainer device,

the main body having a first end portion having a hollow interior and a through hole communicating with the hollow interior, and a second end portion,

a diameter of the first end portion slightly smaller than a diameter of the retainer device,

the retainer device inserted in the first end portion of the main body,

th retainer d vice having an lastic element having a through aperture to match th through hole of the main body, and

a steel ball inserted through the through aperture of the retainer device and the through hole of the main body.